

**MI-CW3111**

Michigan Crop Weather

August 1, 2011

Rain, Finally

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ended July 31, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. A significant rainfall fell over most of the state Wednesday and Thursday bringing relief to crops. Various amounts of rain were reported across the State. Some fields went from very dry to very wet while others received just enough rain to keep the crops growing. Cooler temperatures were a relief as well. Activities for the week included harvesting alfalfa, oats, wheat, cherries, blueberries, peaches and plums, baling straw, scouting fields for pests, and keeping irrigation running.

Field Crops

Much needed rainfall during the week helped improve field crop condition. Significant rains fell Wednesday and Thursday night in southern areas of the State. Northern counties were still in need of rain at week's end. **Corn** fields ranged from V9 to R1. Western bean cutworm counts were high in central counties. **Soybeans** ranged from R1 to R3 with some fields not yet canopied. A few drowned spots due to excessive rainfall were reported. Most of the **wheat** in southern Michigan has been harvested. Straw continues to be baled. Some summer seeding of **alfalfa** was completed late in the week after the rainfall. Second cutting of alfalfa continued. **Oats** ripened fast and harvesting was underway. The **sugarbeet** crop was hurt from the high temperatures but benefited from the rain.

Fruit

The **tart cherry** harvest neared completion in the west central and was in full swing in the northwest. The fruit quality in those regions has been very good. Fruit size has been diminished by low rainfall amounts, but the dry conditions reduced the severity of cherry leaf spot. **Sweet cherry** harvest was nearly done. The harvest of Bluecrop **blueberries** peaked. Harvesting of mid-season blueberries was underway. Berry size and quality declined in the Grand Rapids area, so some growers irrigated and waited for fruit to increase in size before continuing with the harvest. Japanese beetles are a major concern. **Apples** were 2 to 2.5 inches in the south, where harvest of summer varieties began. European red mite numbers increased. Methley, Shiro, and Vibrant **plums** were picked. Early Star, Desiree and PF5D **peaches** were harvested. Some growers have had a large percentage of early peaches with split pits and, therefore, cracked fruit. **Pears** were 1.75 to 2 inches in the south. **Grapes** were at cluster tightening in the southwest. The crop load was very good in most vineyards in the northwest, where some growers hedged vines. Grape berry moth was the primary insect pest.

Vegetables

Vegetable fields benefited from rains in certain areas this past week. **Celery** harvest was in full swing. **Cabbage** was being harvested with good quality and quantity. **Carrots** appeared healthy. Aster yellows disease was found in some carrot fields, but at rates less than normal. **Sweet corn** harvest began ubiquitously this past week. **Tomato** harvest volume increased as more fields came into production. **Pepper** harvest began in the southwest. Purple spot pressure remains high in **asparagus**. The **onion** crop developed rapidly. Thrips control was necessary in some fields. **Cucumber, zucchini, and summer squash** harvest continued. Squash vine borers were active, but decreasing. **Cantaloupe** and **watermelon** continued to size. Harvest continued in some areas. A spider mite outbreak was reported on watermelons in east Michigan. **Broccoli** for processing continued to grow. The **eggplant** crop was nearing harvest.

Soil moisture for week ending 07/31/11

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/31/11 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2011	2010	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	86	46		1,317	1,426		0.62	0.99	1.55	11.61		
Marquette	88	53		1,253	1,388		0.29	0.56	0.96	12.29		
Stephenson	91	52		1,393	1,634		0.60	0.64	1.12	11.28		
Western UP	91	44	4	1,278	1,436	1,195	0.55	0.85	1.43	11.19	12.77	3.69
Cornell	88	51		1,299	1,550		0.42	0.62	1.82	10.90		
Sault St Marie	86	53		1,256	1,435		0.03	0.23	2.80	14.90		
Eastern UP	91	46	4	1,210	1,404	1,016	0.40	0.64	1.93	13.14	12.01	3.53
Beulah	88	55		1,544	1,699		0.23	0.55	1.72	17.20		
Lake City	90	47		1,488	1,636		0.22	0.22	2.15	15.23		
Old Mission	91	52		1,414	1,630		0.00	0.09	0.88	11.56		
Pellston	89	44		1,382	1,564		0.20	0.25	1.11	13.55		
Northwest	91	44	4	1,424	1,590	1,358	0.13	0.22	1.11	13.52	11.38	3.11
Alpena	91	53		1,382	1,573		0.35	0.95	1.70	16.12		
Houghton Lake	90	48		1,581	1,707		0.03	1.68	2.80	14.23		
Rogers City	90	54		1,254	1,473		0.00	0.21	0.78	12.36		
Northeast	92	48	5	1,432	1,616	1,311	0.10	0.89	1.88	14.31	11.44	3.12
Fremont	88	54		1,679	1,853		1.11	1.26	1.98	15.16		
Hart	87	52		1,573	1,754		0.95	1.04	2.32	12.63		
Muskegon	88	58		1,822	1,984		2.59	3.09	3.74	14.90		
West Central	89	50	4	1,638	1,831	1,490	1.17	1.38	2.34	14.61	11.40	3.60
Alma	90	57		1,673	1,914		3.36	3.38	3.55	17.94		
Big Rapids	91	53		1,577	1,792		1.49	1.58	1.72	17.89		
Vestaburg	0	0		0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Central	91	53	4	1,646	1,847	1,558	2.19	2.25	2.41	15.18	12.30	3.64
Bad Axe	90	57		1,585	1,789		1.65	3.11	3.75	17.62		
Pigeon	88	53		1,588	1,774		0.47	0.87	1.38	13.30		
Port Sanilac	NA	NA					0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Saginaw	90	58		1,794	2,006		0.71	0.71	1.95	16.44		
Standish	90	54		1,528	1,730		0.48	1.11	1.72	16.19		
East Central	91	53	4	1,581	1,824	1,543	1.43	1.80	2.42	16.41	11.23	2.93
Fennville	87	55		1,703	1,884		2.58	3.79	5.15	18.52		
Grand Rapids	90	59		1,915	2,095		5.18	5.67	6.62	22.29		
Holland	88	60		2,533	2,068		3.36	4.05	4.42	21.27		
Paw Paw	0	0		0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
South Bend, IN	91	63		2,017	2,127		0.81	0.88	2.18	22.64		
Watervliet	89	59		1,847	2,020		2.46	3.52	4.77	19.44		
Southwest	91	52	3	1,880	2,015	1,678	2.54	3.24	4.37	19.87	13.15	3.18
Belding	88	55		1,680	1,857		3.37	3.53	3.94	17.49		
Coldwater	91	54		1,905	2,069		2.21	2.29	3.11	14.38		
Lansing	90	57		1,821	2,035		3.81	4.05	4.76	19.31		
South Central	91	53	4	1,762	1,966	1,664	3.59	3.95	4.64	18.78	12.95	3.36
Detroit	92	65		2,022	2,188		4.43	4.89	6.10	19.58		
Flint	92	56		1,858	2,018		5.91	5.94	6.34	22.05		
Romeo	91	55		1,762	1,932		0.87	1.04	1.26	15.76		
Tipton	90	60		1,857	1,992		2.86	3.01	4.09	17.92		
Toledo, OH	91	56		1,877	2,215		2.56	2.78	3.49	16.15		
Southeast	95	51	5	1,847	2,062	1,642	2.93	3.10	3.86	16.62	12.60	3.12

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.